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August 12, 1966

*Science, Man  
10-23-66*

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University, School of Medicine  
300 Pasteur Drive  
Palo Alto, California 94304

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Your letter of August 5 inquiring about our work on sex chromatin determination on human amniotic fluid cells has been forwarded to me from Yale. I am primarily situated here in Southbury and have a clinical, part time association at Yale.

Enclosed is a reprint of an article by Dr. Steele and myself published recently in *The Lancet*. You will note that the primary purpose of our study was to investigate the possibility of growing cells from amniotic fluid, whereas the sex chromatin determination aspect was only related and mostly served to confirm the work of others. The note in *Medical World News* appears to have emphasized the latter aspect of our study. I am sorry to report that our further efforts to improve the culture technique so that this might be a practical procedure, i.e. determining the individuals karyotype prenatally have been unsuccessful.

Thank you for your interest in this work.

Sincerely yours,

W. Roy Breg, M.D.  
Assistant Medical Director

WRB/fd

BREG